REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Amendments to the English-language specification and claims are made to correspond with changes made to the German-version application after publication during the Preliminary Examination phase of the corresponding PCT application.

Claims 1-12 are presently pending in the instant application. This Amendment is also made to eliminate all multiple dependencies from the claims, thereby avoiding the need to pay the multiple dependent surcharge.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,

Reg. No. 24,491

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor San Francisco, California 94111-3834

Tel: 415-576-0200 Fax: 415-576-0300

JGS:sba 60661890 v1